DAACS Cataloging Manual:
Faunal

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Contents

Introduction

 The DAACS faunal tables were produced in conjunction with Joanne Bowen, Greg Brown, and Steve Atkins of Colonial Williamsburg and are based on Colonial Williamsburg's CWBONE program. Their assistance with the DAACS faunal tables is greatly appreciated.

This document provides basic explanations for fields in the DAACS faunal tables. In many cases, a simple list of authority terms available for a field is presented. For those fields where the number of authority terms is large (some fields have hundreds of possible values), individual terms are not listed in this document. Rather, a general explanation for the field is given. Where applicable, publications that present standard faunal analysis coding systems used in these tables are referenced.

1. Main Faunal Table

1.1 Artifact ID: Automatically generated number.

1.2 Artifact Count: Number of bones batched under this artifact ID.

1.3 Reliability: If identification is not certain, enter cf. Leave blank otherwise.

1.4 Taxon Name: Choose from the drop-down list in the database. Enter the most specific taxon to which the bone can be identified.

1.5 Element Name: Choose the most specific element name possible from the pull-down list.

1.6 Symmetry: Choose "left," "right," or "axial" (centerline of body) if the bone can be sided. Otherwise, enter "indeterminate."

1.7 NISP: Number of identified specimens

1.8 Weight: Recorded in grams

1.9 Location: Indicates which fraction of an element is present.

1.10 Descriptor: Indicates the presence of diagnostic features (such as particular processes, tuberosities, etc.)

1.11 Fusion: There are two sets of fusion terms:
   For bones with only one epiphysis (such as scapula, innominate, metapodials, phalanges, etc):
   - "Fused"
   - "Unfused"
   - "Fusing"

   For bones with two epiphyses (such as humerus, radius, femur, tibia, fibula, etc):
   - "Proximal fused, distal fused"
   - "Proximal fused, distal fusing"

- "Proximal fused, distal unfused"
- "Proximal fused, distal indeterminate"
- "Proximal fusing, distal fused"
- "Proximal fusing, distal fusing"
- "Proximal fusing, distal unfused"
- "Proximal fusing, distal intermediate"
- "Proximal unfused, distal fused"
- "Proximal unfused, distal fusing"
- "Proximal unfused, distal unfused"
- "Proximal unfused, distal indeterminate"
- "Proximal indeterminate, distal fused"
- "Proximal indeterminate, distal fusing"
- "Proximal indeterminate, distal unfused"
- "Indeterminate"

1.12 Relative Size:
- "Adult"
- "Large adult size"
- "Small adult size"
- "Small and immature"
- "Indeterminate"

1.13 Sex:
- "Male"
- "Female"
- "Indeterminate"

1.14 Chewing Type:
- "Carnivore"
- "Human
- "Indeterminate"
- "Multiple chewing types"
- "Possibly chewed"
- "Rodent"

1.15 Chewing Location: *Where on the bone the chewing is noted:*
- "Anterior end of fragment" (ANT)
- "Both ends of fragment" (BTH)
- "Central part of fragment" (CEN)
- "Distal end of fragment" (DSE)
- "Indeterminate" (I)
- "Posterior end of fragment" (PST)
- "Proximal end of fragment" (PXE)

1.16 Fresh Break?: Simply indicate "yes," "no," or "probably"

2. Tooth Information Table

2.1 Tooth Type:
- "Adult "
- "Deciduous"
- "Indeterminate"

2.2 Tooth Wear: Indicates degree of eruption, and amount of wear if erupted.

3. Condition

3.1 Disease or Trauma: Choose "yes," "no," or "probably"

3.2 Weathered: Choose "yes," "no," or "probably"

3.3 Burned: Choose "yes," "no," or "probably"

3.4 Condition: "Conserved," "mended," or "poor"

4. Butcher and Cut Information Table

4.1 Butcher Method:
- "Axed"
- "Axed, probably"
- "Sawed"
- "Sawed, probably"
- "Hacked"
- "Hacked, probably"

4.2 Butcher Location:
- "Anterior end of fragment"
- "Both ends of fragment"
- "Central part of fragment"
- "Distal end of fragment"
- "Indeterminate"
- "Posterior end of fragment"
- "Proximal end of fragment"

4.3 Butcher Direction:
- "Diagonal"
- "Longitudinal"
- "Parallel to one another"
- "Perpendicular to one another"
- "Random"
- "Transverse"

4.4 No. of Marks: Simply enter the number of cut marks observed.

4.5 Cut Type:
- "Cut"
- "Cut, probable"
- "Hack"
- "Hack, probable"
- "Knife"
- "Knife, probable"

4.6 Cut Location:
- "Anterior end of fragment"
- "Both ends of fragment"
- "Central part of fragment"
- "Distal end of fragment"
- "Indeterminate"
- "Posterior end of fragment"
- "Proximal end of fragment"

4.7 Cut Direction:
- "Diagonal"
- "Longitudinal"
- "Parallel to one another"
- "Perpendicular to one another"
- "Random"
- "Transverse"

5. Measurement Table

5.1 Measuring Description: Indicates which specific points on which bones were measured using standard codes from:

von den Driesch, Angela
1976   *A Guide to the Measurement of Animal Bones from Archaeological Sites*. Peabody Museum Bulletin 1, Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard University.

5.2 Measurement: Record measurement in millimeters.